



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

# BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

## Members

Katie Sullivan, Chair

Susan Atkins • Salvatore Giametta • Matthew Hervey • Abby Silverman Weiss • Sarah White • Alan Ziegaus

## MINUTES

### BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

#### SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Wednesday, February 03, 2010

## ATTENDANCE

### Commissioners:

**Present:** Katie Sullivan, Susan Atkins, Matthew Hervey, Salvatore Giametta, Abby Silverman Weiss, Sarah White

**Absent:** Alan Ziegaus

**Staff:** Deborah Barrow, Library Director; Christine Siegel, Deputy Director; Kathleen Wheatley, Deputy Director; Jay Hill, San Diego Public Library Foundation Executive Director; Carol Tellez, Executive Secretary

**Public:** Brenda Mason, John McAllister

## CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 12:37 p.m. in the Commission Room of the Central Library.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The December 2009 minutes were approved unanimously.

## REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE

None.

## NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

## SERRA SYSTEM ADVISORY BOARD: Brenda Mason

The scholarship winners awarded from the IMLS federal grant are starting their 2010 spring semester, and will be matched with a professional librarian mentor at a meeting on February 17. Applications for scholarships for the fall 2010 semester are currently being accepted. The deadline to apply is March 31.

**REPORT FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY:** John McAllister

The annual essay contest will be held this spring at the Balboa Park Club. More details to follow as they become available.

**CHAIR'S UPDATE:** Katie Sullivan

Deferred.

**DIRECTOR'S UPDATE:** Deborah Barrow

- The grand opening for the new Logan Library on Friday, December 11, was a great success. At the event Council President Ben Hueso announced a generous financial gift from Gracia Molina de Pick.
- January 12, 2010, was declared, "Gracia Molina de Pick Day" by the City Council.
- At the City Council meeting on January 12, 2010, the month of January was declared to be, "One Book, One San Diego" month. The book, *Outcasts United*, by author Warren St. John, is the "One Book" this year. A reception for Mr. St. John will be held on February 17 at the San Diego Hall of Champions, sponsored by the Library Foundation.
- Skyline Hills Library recently received a preliminary grant of \$25,000 from the Institute of Museum and Library Services for books, technology, education and outreach programs.
- The grand opening of "Fairy Tale Mesa" at the Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library was held on January 21. "Fairy Tale Mesa" is a creative and innovative educational space for young children, funded through the First Five Commission.
- J.D. Abel American Epitaphs exhibit of drawings from his book entitled, "The Last Word: Sixty-one American Epitaphs" – is on display at the Central Library through March 31, 2010. On Jan. 21, the Union-Tribune featured an article about the author/artist.
- A Baseball Photography exhibition from local baseball historian and author Andy Strasberg is currently on display at the Central Library through March 31.
- The new Logan Heights Branch Library has been submitted for the ALA 2010 Architectural Design Showcase, which spotlights new, expanded, and renovated library buildings. The Showcase will be featured in the April issue of ALA.
- UT art critic Robert Pincus named the Library's Visual Arts program exhibit by Jeff Irwin as one of 2009's top ten best exhibits. The exhibit was on display last fall at the Pacific Beach Library.

- The Library launched its “Literature Talk” Series with a discussion of, *The Lord of the Rings*, on January 20, at the Central Library. The series encourages patrons to exchange views with fellow readers and area college professors/experts who teach literature in their classes.
- At the State of the City address on January 13, the Mayor showed support for the New Central Library project, as long as the project is financially feasible.
- The Local Authors event on January 29 was very well-attended. Staff did a great job in organizing this event, and thank you notes have been received from several of the authors.
- On the Gloria Penner show on January 29, the topic of discussion was, “How Has Downtown San Diego Changed Over the Past 30 Years?” The new Central Library project was mentioned.
- On January 30, there was an article on the current Central Library. The California Room and Wangenheim Room were favorably mentioned.
- The libraries will be closed on February 4 so that all staff may participate in Staff Development Day. This will be a day for all staff to learn about current trends in libraries, discuss issues at San Diego Public Library, and consider options for the future.

## AGENDA ITEMS

### 9.e Foundation Update: Jay Hill

The Foundation recorded outstanding end of the year revenues, surpassing expectations in a difficult year for non-profits.

The “One Book, One San Diego” reception is scheduled for Wednesday, February 17.

### 9.b Budget Update: Deborah Barrow

Ms. Barrow reported that staff has been working closely with Labor Management and MEA about reductions in Library hours and its impact on employees. This Meet and Confer process is almost complete. The tentative proposal for reduction in hours is:

- Central Library hours of operation reduced from 52 to 44 hours per week, closed on Saturdays
- Branch Libraries hours of operation reduced 5 hours per week, closed on Mondays

Effort was made to ensure that library service is provided somewhere in the City every day, and some evenings.

It was announced recently that the City must pay an additional amount for the pension fund, and it is unknown at this time what impact that will have on the City’s and the Library’s budget.

**9.a Library System Update:** Deborah Barrow

Ms. Barrow gave the report on the New Central Library. The Construction Manager at Risk (CM@R) Ordinance is going to Council on February 16. The bidding of the project will begin as soon as the CM@R contract has been finalized. Staff is working with the School District to finish the City/School lease. May 1, 2010, is the deadline to the State Library to have a signed lease agreement, results of the bidding process, and information on the financial feasibility of the project.

**9.c Legislative Update**

None.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Commissioner Sullivan mentioned that through a competitive bid process for City's Managed Competition Program, the Help Desk Section of the San Diego Data Processing Corporation has been awarded to another company, at a considerable savings to the City.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Sullivan adjourned the meeting at 1:37 p.m.

***Deborah L. Barrow***

DEBORAH L. BARROW  
Library Director

CT